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Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2009, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 4th and 22nd meetings, on 6 October and 23 December 2009. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/64/SR.4 and 22).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 (A/64/220).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.25

4. At its 22nd meeting, on 23 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations" (A/C.5/64/L.25), submitted by the Chairperson of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representatives of Switzerland and Ireland.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/64/L.25 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/235 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000, 58/256 of 23 December 2003 and 61/243 of 22 December 2006,

Recalling also its request to the Secretary-General in paragraph 15 of resolution 55/235 to update the composition of the levels of contribution of Member States for peacekeeping operations described in the resolution on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established in the resolution, and to report thereon to the General Assembly,

Recalling further its decision, in paragraph 16 of resolution 55/235, to review the structure of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations after nine years,

Reaffirming the principles set out in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 55/235 and 55/236,[1]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[1] and of the updated composition of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations for the period 2010 to 2012 contained therein;

2. *Reaffirms* the following general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations:

(a) The financing of such operations is the collective responsibility of all States Members of the United Nations and, accordingly, the costs of peacekeeping operations are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) In order to meet the expenditures caused by such operations, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures under the regular budget of the United Nations;

(c) Whereas the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions to peacekeeping operations, the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures;

(d) The special responsibilities of the permanent members of the Security Council for the maintenance of peace and security should be borne in mind in

[1] A/64/220.

connection with their contributions to the financing of peace and security operations;

(e) Where circumstances warrant, the General Assembly should give special consideration to the situation of any Member States which are victims of, and those which are otherwise involved in, the events or actions leading to a peacekeeping operation;

3. *Also reaffirms* that assessment rates for the financing of peacekeeping operations should be based on the scale of assessments for the regular budget of the United Nations, with an appropriate and transparent system of adjustments based on levels of Member States, consistent with the principles outlined above;

4. *Further reaffirms* that the permanent members of the Security Council should form a separate level and that, consistent with their special responsibilities for the maintenance of peace and security, they should be assessed at a higher rate than for the regular budget;

5. *Affirms* that all discounts resulting from adjustments to the regular budget assessment rates of Member States in levels C through J shall be borne on a pro rata basis by the permanent members of the Security Council;

6. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries should be placed in a separate level and receive the highest rate of discount available under the scale;

7. *Also reaffirms* that the statistical data used for setting the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be the same as the data used in preparing the regular budget scale of assessments, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

8. *Further reaffirms* the decision to create levels of discount to facilitate automatic, predictable movement between categories on the basis of the per capita gross national income of Member States;

9. *Decides* that, as from 1 January 2010, the rates of assessment for peacekeeping should be based on the ten levels of contribution and parameters set forth in the table below, subject to the provisions of the present resolution:

Level	*Criteria*	*Threshold in United States dollars (2010-2012)*	*Discount (per cent)*
A	Permanent members of the Security Council	Not applicable	Premium
B	All Member States, except those covered below and level A	Not applicable	0
C	As listed in the annex to General Assembly resolution 55/235	Not applicable	7.5
D	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 13,416	20

Level	*Criteria*	*Threshold in United States dollars (2010-2012)*	*Discount (per cent)*
E	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.8 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 12,074	40
F	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.6 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 10,733	60
G	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.4 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 9,391	70
H	Member States with per capita gross national income less than 1.2 times the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 8,050	80 (or 70 on a voluntary basis)[a]
I	Member States with per capita gross national income less than the average for all Member States (except level A, C and J contributors)	Under 6,708	80
J	Least developed countries (except level A and C contributors)	Not applicable	90

[a] Member States in level H* have a discount of 70 per cent.

10. *Reaffirms* that Member States will be assigned to the lowest level of contribution with the highest discount for which they are eligible, unless they indicate a decision to move to a higher level;

11. *Also reaffirms* that for purposes of determining the eligibility of Member States for contribution in particular levels during the 2010-2012 scale period, the average per capita gross national income of all Member States will be 6,708 United States dollars and the per capita gross national income of Member States will be the average of 2002 to 2007 figures;

12. *Further reaffirms* that transition periods of two years will apply to countries moving up by two levels, and that transition periods of three years will apply to countries moving up by three or more levels without prejudice to paragraph 10 above;

13. *Reaffirms* that transitions as specified above will occur in equal increments over the transition period as designated above;

14. *Endorses* the updated composition of levels to be applied in adjusting regular budget scale rates to establish Member States' rates of assessment for

peacekeeping operations for the period from 2010 to 2012,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue updating the composition of the levels described above on a triennial basis, in conjunction with the regular budget scale of assessment reviews, in accordance with the criteria established above, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

16. *Recognizes* the concerns raised by Member States, including Bahrain and the Bahamas, regarding the structure of the levels;

17. *Also recognizes* the need to review the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations;

18. *Desires* to address the issues referred to above in an effective and expeditious manner;

19. *Decides* to review the structure of the levels of the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations with a view to a decision, if agreed, no later than its sixty-seventh session.

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[2] Ibid., annex III.